



STATE OF WASHINGTON
WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF HEALTH
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News Release

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Board to Discuss Rules on Septics, Pools, Hotels, Food

Wed., July 14, 9:30 a.m.–4:45 p.m., Centralia Railroad Depot, 210 Railroad Avenue, Centralia

The state Board of Health will devote an hour of its July 14 meeting in Centralia to a discussion of options for strengthening onsite septic rules to protect water quality and shellfish. Governor Gary Locke and other elected officials have asked the Board to take another look at current proposed language and consider changes for marine counties. Participants in a panel discussion of policy options will include Ron Shultz, the Governor's natural resource policy adviser, Brad Ack, director of the Puget Sound Action Team, Janice Adair and Maryanne Guichard from the Department for Health, and Art Starry, the environmental health director from Thurston County.

The Board will also hear an update on revisions to the food code, which will likely be considered for adoption in September. It will continue its May discussion of proposed water recreation rules. A vote is expected. It will also hold two public hearings on proposed rules—one on comprehensive changes to the transient accommodations rule that sets health and safety standards for hotels and other lodging facilities, and one on whether to change the definition of adult family homes in the rule requiring food worker cards. The Board is expected to vote on whether to adopt both of these proposals.

This is likely to be the final meeting for Board Chair Linda Lake, who has chosen not to seek reappointment after four years.

Copies of the agenda and related materials are available by contacting the Board of Health at (360) 236-4110 or by visiting the Board's Web site at <http://www.sboh.wa.gov/>. The emergency and press contact number for the Board during the meeting is (360) 701-2398.

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The State Board of Health serves the citizens of Washington by working to understand and prevent disease across the entire population. Established in 1889 by the State Constitution, the Board provides leadership by suggesting public health policies and actions, by regulating certain activities, and by providing a public forum. The governor appoints ten members who fill three-year terms. Visit the board's Web site at www.sboh.wa.gov.